

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (new): A device for protecting the skin of a leg against irritation from contact with an irritable snug fit surface fitted around the leg adjacent to the skin, such as a surface of footwear extending towards the skin of the leg, said device comprising:

    a body with an underside and an upper side for placing around at least a forward part, comprising the skin to be protected from irritation, of a leg above the foot as seen in a vertical direction,

    wherein the body comprises a material with elastic properties,

    wherein the body at least partially encloses the leg as seen in a horizontal direction, and

    wherein the protective part of the body, which in use is adjacent to the skin to be protected, that extends between the skin and the irritable surface, only consists of the elastic material.

Claim 18 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein a substantial part of the body, after being placed around a leg, wholly encloses the leg in a horizontal direction.

Claim 19 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the underside of the body is provided with a recess for placing on the front side of a leg.

Claim 20 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising at least one support member for supporting a part of the leg adjacent to the member after placing around a leg.

Claim 21 (new): The device as claimed in claim 20, further comprising two support members on the inner side of the body, which are arranged substantially on either side of the front side of the body.

Claim 22 (new): The device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the at least one support member comprises the same materials as the body.

Claim 23 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the thickness of the body is variable.

Claim 24 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the dimensioning is chosen such that the device fits closely around a leg.

Claim 25 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the body comprises a plastic.

Claim 26 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the body comprises neoprene.

Claim 27 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the body comprises foam or memory foam.

Claim 28 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the body comprises rubber or latex.

Claim 29 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising fastening means for fastening the body around a leg.

Claim 30 (new): The device as claimed in claim 29, wherein the fastening means comprises a hook and loop fastening such as Velcro tape.

Claim 31 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the body is fastened in substantially cylindrical or conical form along a substantially vertical seam.

Claim 32 (new): The device as claimed in claim 17, further comprising markings for removing at least a part of the body therealong.